



**Churches
Together in
Cumbria**
May
2018

IN CHURCHES TOO: DOMESTIC ABUSE HAPPENS TO CHURCHGOERS



One in four Cumbria churchgoers who took part in recent research say they have experienced abuse in their current relationship.

Churches in Cumbria were invited to participate in a ground-breaking study of domestic abuse, which was published on Wednesday 21 March. According to Dr Kristin Aune of Coventry University, who led the research, the findings were compelling:

"Domestic abuse happens in churches too," she said. "A quarter of the people we heard from told us they had, for example, been physically hurt by their partners, sexually assaulted, emotionally manipulated, or had money withheld from them. This includes twelve women who have experienced between ten and twenty abusive behaviours and six women who are currently in relationships where they fear for their lives. Co-author Dr Rebecca Barnes, of the University of Leicester, added: "More broadly, 42% of the people we heard from had experienced in a current or previous relationship at least one of the abusive behaviours we asked about."

438 churchgoers from a range of churches completed the survey, and 109 of them said they had experienced abusive behaviours in their current relationship. People aged over 60 were less likely to say they had experienced domestic abuse than younger adults were, and women more likely to say they had experienced serious forms of abuse than men.

Only 2 in 7 churchgoers felt their church was adequately equipped to deal with a disclosure of abuse.

"We clearly have a lot of work to do," says Bishop of Carlisle The Right Revd James Newcome. "Churches in Cumbria have been taking this very seriously for many years, which is why we wanted to take part in the research. Many churches have taken part in training, promote helplines and liaise with local support services and we have come a long way in understanding that this is a vital part of our ministry to the community. It's time to recognise that we must also examine ourselves."

Some clergy in Cumbria have themselves survived domestic abuse. Before meeting the man who is now her husband, Anglican parish priest Rev Eleanor Hancock was in an abusive relationship for ten years:

"We lived on a farm, so I blamed my bruises and injuries on slipping in the yard or being kicked by a sheep," she says. "He was emotionally abusive too, calling me fat and ugly and blaming me for everything. I kept making excuses for him because I loved him, but eventually I knew I had to leave."

Eleanor went with a friend to church, which was an important part of her healing, and was later ordained. In parish ministry, she found that her experience helped her advise couples preparing to marry and to listen to people who were being manipulated and abused.

"The church is a vital resource for any community and, at its best, is both a refuge and a place where deep transformation happens," says Mandy Marshall, Co-Director of Restored, the organisation founded to help churches around the world to tackle violence against women.

"Talking in church about domestic abuse is the most important first step, whether that's mentioning it in sermons or being open in pastoral conversations to respond to disclosures. This vital research is the wake-up call we need to help us understand that this happens in churches too."

For resources to help churches address domestic abuse go to www.restoredrelationships.org/churchpack

Moving Mountains

To help further the 'Moving Mountains Mission' a series of events has been organised for anyone interested in exploring what God might be calling them to do.

Dates and locations for the **Vocations Roadshows** are as follows:

Wednesday 2 nd May	Moresby Church Hall, 7.30pm-9.30pm
Saturday 5 th May	Newbiggin Village Hall (just outside Penrith), 10.00am-12 noon
Saturday 2 nd June	Christchurch Cockermouth, 10.00am-12 noon
Thursday 21 st June	St Thomas' Kendal, 7.30pm-9.30pm
Thursday 12 th July	St James Parish Centre Carlisle, 7.30pm-9.30pm
Tuesday 11 th September	Dalton Parish Centre, 7.30pm-9.30pm

Please come along to find out what different sorts of ministry might mean so that you can encourage others.

Please come and explore what God might be calling you to do.

Please bring others with you.

All welcome.



SAVE THE DATE

Building on the successful day last year and amazing feedback the #FXCumbria day will be back on November 10th 2018. We will confirm details asap just trying to find a bigger venue!!

Cumbrian Christians for Creation Care (CC4CC) is an Ecumenical Group reporting to the CTiC Social Responsibility Forum. It aims to inform and encourage our churches about our mission to nurture and protect our world - our "common home" as Pope Francis called it. However, although we are ecumenical in name, at present our membership is mostly Anglican. We welcome new members to our group, particularly from non-Anglican churches. We especially welcome people who can help us improve our outreach via the internet and social media.

If you are interested, please contact:

Ian James (dr.i.james@btinternet.com) or

Pam Martin (pammartin47@gmail.com).

Ian James, Chair, CC4CC

The Osiligi Maasai Warriors are a performing group from southern Kenya who have toured the UK over a number of years with great success. They have received invaluable support from Cumbrian schools over the years and, via Churches Together in Cumbria, have also enjoyed successful church performances in Workington and Carlisle. They will return to Cumbria in September and we are looking for a church to host an event in **northern Cumbria** on : **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018.**

No financial guarantee is required. We simply split ticket receipts 70/30 in favour of the artistes with agreed prices (currently in the range of £10 adults, £8 concession and £4 children) and poster publicity and ticket artwork is provided free of charge. The show is great family entertainment.

If your Church is interested in this please contact Jim Wilkie, Tour Organiser on 0775 360 6886 or email j.wilkie@btinternet.com

Churches Together in Cumbria Groups Gathering and AGM

Thursday 24th May 2018

Abbey Road Baptist Church, Barrow in Furness

LA14 9AT. You are invited to a soup and sandwich lunch (donations invited) at 12 noon. The meeting will start with a time of worship at 12.45pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Caring for Our Common Home: An action plan for Christians in Cumbria

Prepared by Cumbria Christians 4 Creation Care formally Churches Together in Cumbria's Environment Group

<http://www.churchestogethercumbria.co.uk/home/814-care-for-our-common-home.html>

<http://www.churchestogethercumbria.co.uk/living-lightly>

Blog: <https://caringforourcommonhome.wordpress.com/>

Cumbria tourists and pilgrims

Cumbria is a unique part of the world, housing two UNESCO World Heritage sites; two National Parks and two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, it welcomes millions of tourists.

Our church buildings provide an amazing glimpse into our history and there is growing interest by visitors for their architecture, art and musical heritage, as well as their spiritual presence.

Do you have a church trail you wish to promote? or if your church is open and you want to be included on the ExploreChurches website please contact The Churches Trust for Cumbria

Jayne Potts (Development Officer)
Churches Trust for Cumbria
Church House
9 - 24 Friargate
Penrith
Cumbria
CA11 7XR
Tel: 07979 606 131
Email: jayne@ctfc.org.uk

THEOLOGY FOR A LEARNING CHURCH:

JOIN US IN LIVERPOOL THIS MAY

Church Action on Poverty is proud to be a partner in the Centre for Theology and Justice

alongside Christian Aid, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, and Luther King House in Manchester.

We warmly invite you to the Centre's annual David Goodbourn Lecture this May:

THEOLOGY FOR A LEARNING CHURCH: CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, LAY FORMATION AND THE LANGUAGE OF 'DISCIPLESHIP'

3:45pm, Wednesday 9 May 2018

Metropolitan Cathedral, Liverpool

The lecture will be given by Professor Elaine Graham, Grosvenor Research

Professor of Practical Theology at the University of Chester.

Recent work on 'lay leadership' and 'discipleship' notes the challenge of 'setting God's people free' from clericalism, to exercise a wider ministry as the church in the world. The lecture will examine the tension between Christian education for the 'gathered' and 'scattered' church, and consider what patterns of learning and formation are best suited for the challenges facing the church in the world today.

This is an open event so there is no need to apply for a ticket.

Big Church Day Out

For our 10th year we are really pulling all the stops out to make this year a huge celebration of all things that are good, helped along by Matt Redman, Kari Jobe, Crowder, Travis Greene, Housefires, Martin Smith, For King and Country and many many more to add to the line up !!

We are excited to be returning to Capesthorne Hall in Cheshire on the 1st and 2nd June 2018 and we have been really moved by how we have been welcomed by all those of you in the midlands and the north, really looking forward to growing this event and securing the venue for many years to come.

90% of those who attend BCDO come in a group. We have created a very easy way to book in as a group, please see the attached guide below : in essence the more that book into your group the cheaper the ticket price becomes.

It is estimated that we will have 40,000 plus gathering together in unity to worship, pray and fellowship with each other this year ,with a great opportunity to share the gospel and see 1000s respond and make life changing decisions that will change individuals, families and communities.

Physical promo packs for 2018 are now available! If you or your church would like one please register here: <https://bigchurchdayout.wufoo.eu/forms/z1rt23rf18vcjws/> ...

And finally for all the information you will ever need and to purchase tickets go to www.bigchurchdayout.com



Free self harm & suicide alertness training for professionals working with children & young people

These half day workshops include casestudies, videos and group discussion.

Learning outcomes include:

- Looking at the local and national context and being aware that self harm and suicide are major public health issues
- Dispelling some of the myths about self harm and suicide and looking at our own and societal attitudes
- Helping staff to identify issues, discuss and help a young person seek further help
- Understanding and using the Cumbria Self harm Guidance & Pathway and being aware of other support available
- Understanding the importance of asking directly about thoughts of suicide and the importance of safety planning

Forthcoming dates:

Workington Fire Station: Friday 18th May 9:30 am- 1.00 pm

Penrith Fire Station: Friday 13th April 9:30am- 1.00pm
Monday 4th June 9:30 am – 1.00pm

Carlisle East Fire Station: Friday 20th April 9:30am – 1:00pm
Tuesday 29th May 9:30 am- 1:00 pm

More dates to be added

For more details or to book contact training@cemind.org

In house sessions can also be offered free of charge contact:
training@cemind.org

These courses are funded by



“Tea Services”

As part of CTiC’s dementia-friendly churches project, there are now a number of “tea services” being held across the county. These are short services, followed by refreshments, which have designed with the needs of people affected by dementia uppermost, but which are open to everybody. Come and see!

Grange over Sands: Third Monday in the month: Grange URC, Kents Bank Road; 2.30pm

Kendal: Third Thursday in the month: Kendal Parish Church, Kirkland; 2.30pm

Millom: Third Friday in the month: Lapstone House, Lapstone Road,; 10.30am

Milnthorpe: Third Thursday in the month: St Thomas’ Church (2.00pm short Prayer Book service; 2.30pm tea, coffee, cake & chat)

THE DEMENTIA CAFÉ

at The Hub, Penrith Hospital

Takes place on the last Tuesday of the month,

1.30pm-3.30pm

Everyone welcome

The South Lakes Dementia Hub

Kendal Dementia Action Alliance– working together to help improve the lives of people affected by dementia.

Monthly 2pm-4pm at St. Thomas’ Church, Kendal

Tuesday 8th May

Email: KendalDAA@gmail.com

A chance to chat and have a cup of tea in a relaxed setting.

Do you want to help your church become dementia-friendly?

CTiC’s project to make every church in Cumbria dementia-friendly by 2020 is in its third year. We now have 117 local volunteer Dementia Enablers across the county. If you are interested in learning more about the role, and having chance to become an Enabler before our development day for Enablers in June, please contact Lucie Lunn revlucielunn@btinternet.com



Christ Church, Penrith

The Penrith Tea Service

Every Friday at 2:30 p.m.

A simple, (but still ‘proper church’) service of about 25 minutes, with familiar hymns, readings and prayers followed by tea and cakes.

The service is **for all**, but is especially suitable for anyone for whom Sunday morning longer church services are not possible, for whatever reason. All are invited to share the friendly welcome and accepting nature of the gathering. The tea and cakes after the service brings us together in kind, gentle fellowship and good conversation.

This ecumenical service is led and supported by people from many of the Penrith church communities.

Together the Border Kirk and St George’s URC

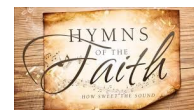
are holding a



Dementia Tea Service



At St George’s URC, West Walls, Carlisle, CA3 8UF



2.00pm the 3rd Tuesday of the month

Next one: 15th May

A short informal service, open to everyone, but especially those with memory loss, their family and carers.

Stay for refreshments after the service

For more information contact Rosalind on 016973 44892



Cumbria National Youth Advocacy Service

NYAS is looking to recruit volunteers in the Kendal area to become Volunteer Independent Visitors; individuals who befriend children and young people who are in care (looked after by the Local Authority) and have little or no contact with their own parents. Volunteers provide opportunities for children / and young people to develop meaningful, long term relationships with adults.

We ask volunteers to commit approximately 3-4 hours once a month, to meet with a child or young person. You will be expected to carry out an activity of their choice, such as going for a walk, to the cinema, watching sports etc., depending on the interests of the young person.

We ask for long term commitment from our volunteers to ensure they are able to build a stable and trusting befriending relationship with the child or young person. Most importantly, you will have a chance to make a real and lasting difference to their life.

For more information email: terry.smith@nyas.net or give me a call on 07436 561476
Terry Smith, IV Coordinator, Cumbria National Youth Advocacy Service

Reminder

Please remember to keep looking at the CTiC [events page](#) which is regularly updated with all the events we are notified about. Please send information before mid May for our June newsletter:

ebctic@outlook.com

Foster and help us to change young lives

Right now across Cumbria there is an urgent need for more foster carers to provide supportive, safe and happy homes for children.

If you have room to spare in your home and a lifestyle that has room for a child, then why not become part of Cumbria's biggest family?

Cumbria County Council already support over 200 foster families, but with more than 600 children needing foster families, they are always looking for more people to join in.

From short-term fostering to offering a permanent home to a child, there are many ways in which you could make a difference to the lives of children in your local area.

Foster carer Hazel Purfield from Cockermouth, said: "My husband and I have been fostering for about six years now. We're registered to foster children of all ages but we usually take children under two and only one child at a time.



"We are part of a local church with lots of children so we tend to get together with other families for outings and holidays. Our family are very supportive, but it goes beyond that. We have our network of friends, the church, our social worker and the child's social worker to support us. Everyone comes together to give this child the best start in life. It's an awesome thing to be part of.

"It is hard when it's time for the children to move on, you become very attached to them. But it's so rewarding to have the honour of seeing them recover, grow and progress in a loving and secure place. We still see some of the children we have fostered and it is such a blessing to see them happy and doing well. Our only regret is that we didn't do this years ago."

If you are thinking of fostering why not come along to an **information event** in your area:

Saturday May 12 – Washington Central Hotel, Workington - starts 2pm.

Saturday May 19 – Imperial Hotel, Barrow – starts 2pm.

For further information call 0303 333 1216 or go to www.cumbria.gov.uk/fostering



All the information in this newsletter is published in good faith and for general information purpose only. Churches Together in Cumbria does not make any guarantee about the completeness, reliability and accuracy of this information. Nor does inclusion herein imply our endorsement of events or organisations.

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